



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

## THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE.

BY RABBI ISAAC M. WISE.

The Hebrew Union College, located in Cincinnati, 494 W. 6th Street, was established in 1846 by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. A majority of all Hebrew Congregations in this country, including the largest, are members of this "Union," and contribute to it one dollar annually for each member. The "Union" elects in its bi-annual conventions, a Board of Directors, who govern the College in all affairs not left to the Faculty.

The Faculty elected by the Board of Examiners, consists of the following gentlemen :

Rabbi Isaac M. Wise, President and Professor of Hebrew Philosophy and History.

Rev. Dr. Mielzener, Professor of the Talmud and Rabbinic jurisprudence.

Solomon Eppinger, Esq., Preceptor of the Talmud, and Professor of Exegesis p.t.

Ignatius Mueller, Esq., Assistant in Hebrew.

Henry Berkowitz, Esq., Assistant in History.

Two of the teachers, Rev. Dr. M. Lilienthal and Louis Aufrecht, Esq., died this year, and no successors have been appointed yet.

The session extends from the first Monday of September to the last week in June, annually, from 3 to 6 p. m., daily except Sunday, with liturgical exercises every Saturday afternoon.

There are registered this year forty-two students, one female, all Jews, although the law of the college excludes none on account of their religious confessions. The college is perfectly free, no fees whatever are exacted. All text books are furnished gratuitously to the students, and the indigent are furnished with all the common necessities of life.

The library in the college building of about 8,000 volumes comprises the principal works of the Hebrew literature, Biblical, Rabbinical, historical, philosophical, poetical, etc., together with Syriac, Arabic and other Semitic works, Lexica, grammars, etc., and a fair selection of English, German, French, Italian and other works. It is at the disposal of the students and teachers, and of all outsiders who seek information.

The college is divided in two departments, preparatory and collegiate. One of its preparatory departments is in New York City, under the superintendency of Rev. Dr. Gottheil. The pupils of the preparatory departments must be graduates or students of the Cincinnati high school, or any similar institute, must know some Hebrew and the Bible History, to be registered. The curriculum of this department is this :

*1st year.*—Hebrew etymology ; exercises in translation from English into Hebrew ; reading the original of one book of the Pentateuch, Joshua and Judges, two chapters with *Rashi's* rabbinical commentary ; also two books of Mishnah, usually *Aboth* and *Sanhedrin*, history from 536 to 167 B. C.

*2nd year.*—Hebrew Grammar completed, exercises continued ; Bible reading, one book of Pentateuch, I. and II. Samuel, and a number of Psalms memorized ; four books of Mishnah, twenty pages of Talmud, and history from 167 to 20 B. C.

*3d year.*—Aramaic Grammar, Hebrew exercises continued ; Bible reading, one book of the Pentateuch, I. and II. Kings with the *Targum* and *Rashi* to some chapters ; Psalms memorized ; thirty pages Talmud ; Casuistics in the code of Moses Maimonides ; History to 70 A. C.

*4th year.*—Aramaic Grammar, rabbinical dialect ; Hebrew exercises continued ; Bible reading, one book of the Pentateuch, Daniel, Ezra and Nehemiah ; Psalms memorized ; thirty pages of the Talmud ; the first book (with the exception of *Akkum*) in the code by Moses Maimonides ; literary history to 70 A. C.

Graduates of this department receive the degree of Bachelor of Hebrew, or *Chaber*, and may enter the rabbinical or collegiate department.

Students of the collegiate department are required to be graduates or students of the academical course in the Cincinnati University, or a similar institute, and must be graduates of the examination in the above curriculum.

The collegiate department takes four years. Its curriculum comprises besides the usual theological studies, the Hebrew and Aramaic also the Syriac and Arabic languages. The test for graduation is, 1st, the ability to read and expound critically and historically any given passage in Bible and commentaries, Talmud and Casuists, philosophers and poets of the Hebrew ; 2nd, Sufficient knowledge of literary history, casuistics and jurisprudence of the synagogue, the various forms of worship, and the historical development of Jewish doctrine. 3d, Homiletic and liturgic competency, and 4th, a university degree. He receives the degree of Rabbi and may receive two years later the degree of D. D.

The students of this department read steadily the Bible with ancient and modern paraphrases and commentaries, the Talmud with commentaries and casuists, and *Midrashim* or homiletics. Of the Jewish metaphysicians, they read chiefly the works of Maimonides, Bechai, Halevy, Albo and Saadia. In history they follow Graetz and Jast, Zunz, Munk and Dukes, Geiger and Steinschneider.

The first class of Rabbis will graduate in July, 1883, composed of seven students.

Annually the Union of American Hebrew Congregations appoints three commissioners to examine the classes. The most prominent Rabbis of America have alternately discharged this duty. Their reports, published with the proceedings of the Union have been unanimously very favorable.

Similar institutions exist, two in Berlin, one in Breslau, one in Pest, and one in Paris, besides private institutions not connected with academical studies, which are very numerous in Europe, especially in Hungary, Poland and Russia ; also in Asia and Africa.